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## *How Does It Help You?*

**D**OES THE LIVING OF THE GOSPEL BENEFIT YOU? Have you ever stopped to think just what the gospel and the Church do for you and your loved ones? Have you caught a vision of the extent to which they can and do benefit us. The benefits are great—far beyond the appreciation of most of us.

Here are some of the things our religion should do for us:

**IT SHOULD PROVIDE AN INCENTIVE FOR PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT.** Whatever is good in you, living the Gospel will make it better.

**IT SHOULD SUPPLY SOUND AND ACCEPTED STANDARDS BY WHICH MEN CAN BEST LIVE.** We need clear vision that we may know where to stand and what to stand for. A sense of values is the most important single element in human personality.

**IT SHOULD SUPPLY RATIONAL AND SATISFYING ANSWERS TO MAN'S SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS.** No man is so dead to the spiritual side of life that some time he has not asked himself: Where did I come from? Why am I here? Where do I go?

**IT SHOULD GIVE HIM GREATER POWERS THAN THOSE WITH WHICH HE IS NATURALLY ENDOWED.** Spiritual power is a force which history clearly teaches has been the greatest force in the development of man.

**A MAN'S RELIGION SHOULD MAKE HIS LIFE FULL, HAPPY, ABUNDANT, AND INSPIRING TO OTHERS.** "Adam fell that men might be; men are that they might have joy."

If the Gospel is not benefitting us as it should, then we might search our inward selves for the answer. The benefits and blessings are abundantly present—waiting only to be drawn upon by the sincere seeker after spiritual and material rewards.

C.G.M.K.

# RELIEF SOCIETY MEMBERS

by President BELLE S. SPAFFORD

*President of the Relief Society*

WITH the advent of another Relief Society birthday, the general board extends to the Relief Society sisters of the British Mission its love and appreciation. We wish we might personally join with you in every Anniversary Day meeting held throughout the mission; that we might take each sister by the hand and extend to her warm greetings. Since this is impossible we say instead as you gather in your several meetings, may this day bring you a deepened appreciation of Relief Society and a renewal of your desires and determinations to do your individual parts in carrying the society to new heights of achievement. May your Relief Society activities add buoyancy to your living, cheerfulness to your spirits, and may it bring to you peace of heart.

It has been nearly two years since I met with a group of Relief Society sisters in the wondrous city of London, yet there remains with me a vivid memory of the occasion. The little chapel at Nightingale Lane was filled to capacity. The orderly room was made beautiful with bouquets of flowers. Important and impressive were the messages of the

speakers that evening, interspersed with sweet and sacred music. Yet, withal, the most moving and deeply impressive part of the gathering was the sincere testimonies of the sisters as one by one they spoke of the influence of Relief Society in their lives and expressed thanks to the Lord for their membership in the Society. These were not assigned testimonies prepared in advance, eloquently worded, borne to impress the listeners. Rather, they were simple, voluntary expressions of the convictions and gratitude of the heart that the Lord had singled them out as beneficiaries of his goodness.

These were not the first sisters to have borne such testimonies. Through the years and in many parts of the world women have testified of the divinity of the work of Relief Society and have acknowledged, as a great and abiding blessing, their membership in it.

This March 17, 1956, one hundred and fourteen years since Relief Society was founded by the Prophet Joseph Smith, small and large groups of women around the world, in great cities and little hamlets, in warm countries and cold, women of different races and many nationali-

ties will listen to the story of the birth of Relief Society. They will rejoice that God in his wisdom and mercy gave to the world again in this dispensation his gospel, established his Church, and gave to womankind the Relief Society. They will pledge anew their devotion to Relief Society and will resolve to be more diligent in the furtherance of its cause.

Humble in numbers was the beginning of Relief Society; humble indeed are many of the ward and branch societies throughout the Church today, some of them numbering but three or four sisters. However, as a composite, the more than 3,600 local societies assume great stature. Through the one hundred and fourteen years of its existence, the society has grown steadily in numbers and in strength until today more than 160,000 women hold membership, and its influence is beyond calculation. However, we must remember always that our might is not in our numbers nor in the widespread area wherein we operate, but in the righteousness that exists among us, in our adherence to the commandments of God.

There can be strength beyond measure and unlimited influence for good in the small society of three or four members as well as in the larger society if there is righteousness and devotion to the guiding principles set by the Prophet Joseph Smith and reiterated by the prophets who have succeeded him.

We must remember always, whether the local society to which we belong is large or small, the purposes are the same. Relief Society was established for "the relief of the poor, the destitute, the widow and the orphan, and for the

exercise of benevolent purposes." The Prophet admonished us that we were "not only to relieve the poor, but save souls." This we must never forget. Also, we must remember his promise: "Knowledge and intelligence shall flow down from this time hence forth." Relief Society must do its part in the fulfillment of this glorious promise. We must "teach one another words of wisdom; yea, seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning even by study and also by faith" (D. & C. 109: 7). But this is not enough. We must apply the wisdom, light, and knowledge gained in building faith and in living as the Lord would have us live.

This Anniversary Day, in gratitude for the blessings and benefactions of Relief Society, let us resolve to more firmly anchor our faith in God. Let us "cast away from us our transgressions whereby we have transgressed; and make a new heart and a new spirit." Let us love one another with a sincere and an unselfish love. Let us pledge ourselves to follow the light which God has given us—the light of Truth; the Gospel light.

Then the Lord will come unto Relief Society; He will make His abode with us and the blessings of heaven will rest upon us as a society and as individuals. We will place on still higher planes the devoted services we were organized to carry on. Relief Society will continue to move forward in a glorious manner. Our work will be accomplished with a glad heart and a cheerful countenance, and countless numbers of women to whom the work is yet unknown will bear testimony to the blessings and divinity of Relief Society.

# RECORDS

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by **SISTER IRENE P. KERR**

*President of the British Mission Relief Society*

“**A**ND a book of remembrance was kept in which was recorded in the language of Adam, for it was given unto as many as called upon God to write by the spirit of inspiration. And by them their children were taught to read and write . . . And a genealogy was kept of the children of God” (Moses 6: 5-6, 8).

In this manner the progenitors of our race were instructed in the art and importance of record keeping.

Whenever our Heavenly Father gives direction to His earthly children they are commanded to keep records of the same. In this manner there is bequeathed to future generations a rich legacy of knowledge for their guidance. In addition to being interesting and informative it can have far-reaching effects. The mistakes of the past, if known, need not be repeated and the successes of one generation can furnish the faith and inspiration for higher achievement to another.

Not only are such records kept for guidance, but the basic laws of order and efficiency demand this of us.

No people in history have been more abundantly provided, than have we, with fluent language and the means of preserving indefinitely the records of our activities in the Church and Kingdom of God.

And this is the Lord's command to us in this day, “Behold there shall be a record kept among you; . . . And again, I say unto you that it shall be appointed unto him to keep the church record and history continually . . .” And “It is the duty of the Lord's clerk, whom he has appointed to keep a history, and a general church record of all things that transpire . . . And also their manner of life, their faith, and works . . .” (D. and C. 21: 1; 47: 3; 85: 1-2).

Those who have thus been appointed have a sacred and important responsibility to labour in all diligence as clerks and secretaries in the various organisations of the church; but even more sacred and important is it that we so live that our deeds and actions will be worthy of being recorded in the “Book of Life”.

“And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the Books, according to their works” (Rev. 20: 13).

May this thought sustain us as we Relief Society members try to reach nearer to perfection.

I.P.K.



# *The* **RELIEF SOCIETY**

by **ELDER GEORGE Q. MORRIS**  
*The Council of the Twelve Apostles*

**U**NDER date of March 17, 1842, one hundred and fourteen years ago, the Prophet Joseph Smith writes in the History of the Church (Vol. 4, page 552): "I assisted in commencing the organization of the female Relief Society of Nauvoo, in the lodge room, Sister Emma Smith, President and Sister Elizabeth Ann Whitney and Sarah M. Cleveland, Counsellors. I gave much instructions, read in the New Testament and in the Book of Mormon and the Covenants, concerning the elect lady and showed that the elect meant to be elected to a certain work, etc., and that the revelation was then fulfilled by Sister Emma's election to the Presidency of the Society, she having been previously ordained to expound the scriptures. Emma was blessed and her counsellors were ordained by Elder John Taylor."

Surely the Prophet was inspired when he set up this great organization for women, its name being descriptive of its purpose. In a Church which provides that all worthy men may be active in the Priesthood,

bringing the blessings of God, spiritual and temporal, to their fellow men, how fitting that provision should be made, that all women, as conditions would permit, should be also engaged in bringing blessings to their fellows. What a priceless privilege that women might have such a choice and fruitful association and fellowship among themselves. In this particular organization, besides this enriching association, their common objective was one of the highest and noblest that could be attained, as explained by the Apostle James (James 1:27):

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this,  
To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

A rewarding and enjoyable programme of activities for women has been developed, as indicated by the various departments of the Society. What a wealth of wisdom and knowledge and skill must come from these departments, as implied by their names: Theology; Music,

Home Visiting; Work Meetings; Literature; Social Science. What splendid equipment to give women—wives and mothers—women generally. What a powerful influence for good is brought into the homes and the communities through the Church, to have our women schooled, trained, informed, and skilled in domestic arts and duties and with well-informed minds in Literature and Social Science. And all of this devoted to the blessing and uplift of their fellows.

The Prophet had a clear vision of the ultimate results of their work as effecting society and the nation.

One of the most difficult problems in community service is to administer organized relief without doing harm to the individual and without diverting the means available for relief to the cost of such service to a disproportionate degree. The way revealed of God to administer relief provides ample means for the purpose and avoids these evils. It gives relief and succour in such a way as to increase self-respect, promote self-reliance, strengthen character and establish faith in God, and equality, fellowship and good-will among men. The Prophet Joseph Smith saw clearly the natural results if this principle were employed. In counselling the sisters of the newly formed Relief Society, after encouraging them in deeds of benevolence and charity, and to be exemplary and God-fearing, he said that the women would win the good-will of all people through their love and purity and goodness, and made a prophecy. He said:

“If this Society listens to the counsel of the Almighty, through the heads of the Church, they will

have power to command queens in their midst.

“I now deliver it as a prophecy that if the inhabitants of this State, with the people of the surrounding country, will turn toward the Lord with all their hearts, ten years will not roll round before the Kings and Queens of the earth will come unto Zion and pay their respects to the leaders of this people; they will come with their millions, and shall contribute of their abundance to the relief of the poor, and the building up and beautifying of Zion.” (History of the Church, Vol. IV, page 605.)

In continuing his instructions, he said, “Don’t be limited in your views with regard to your neighbour’s virtue but beware of self-righteousness and be limited in the estimate of your own virtues and not think yourselves more righteous than others. You must enlarge your souls towards each other if you will do like Jesus and carry your fellow creatures to Abraham’s bosom.

“And I now turn the keys in your behalf in the name of the Lord and this Society shall rejoice and knowledge and intelligence shall flow down from this time henceforth. This is the beginning of better days to the poor and the needy who shall be made to rejoice and pour forth blessings on your heads.”

Of course the people did not join in the plan the Lord had laid out for our people, but the sisters of the Relief Society have carried on this work through the years, on the principles laid down, ministering in love and unselfishness to the needs of the people, temporally and spiritually, and building them up and strengthening them in faith and de-



votion to God and in good fellowship.

And now has come into existence in the stakes of the Church the greater plan that the Prophet seemed to envision as he spoke to the sisters over a hundred years ago of the good-will and financial support that would come. And in this plan the Relief Society plays a conspicuous and very important part, being linked with the Priesthood in the Lord's plan for temporal and spiritual salvation of the people.

Note the expressions of appreciation written by those of our friends who have visited the Welfare Square in Salt Lake City, who represent the civic and private organisations, and all the churches and denominations who are deeply concerned in finding the best means of carrying on this fundamental Christian effort. From Hebrew: "Mormonism is an extremely interesting and unique religion. Welfare of the individual is stressed. To me it looks like the ideal religion." From Methodists: "Your Welfare system is wonderful. It would be well if all faiths practised the same. This has been the most enjoyable experience I have had on a long trip. Excellent programme. The most comprehensive Welfare programme I have ever heard of." Catholic: "The L.D.S. Welfare programme is, in our opinion, a very worthy and inspirational cause. It shows what work and co-operation can do. I wish that every person in this country could have the information we have received today. God bless you." Protestant: "Your programme surpasses anything I have ever seen. A very wonderful work. It certainly is God's work. Have heard often of this Church and its reliefs but have

changed my mind and I think you are doing a wonderful work and are very sincere about your worship of God. And as for beauty, I can say the half of it hasn't been told to me." Protestant-Episcopal: "The social precepts of the Church should be promulgated as an American way of life as well as a Mormon one. Your hospitality was greatly appreciated". Congregationalists: "Unbelievable! I have never seen anything equal to it. This is one of the highlights of a five week trip. A very wonderful system. Brotherly help with maintenance and individual dignity and responsibility." Baptist: "This has been an interesting observation of what can happen when people work together under the Lord. I wish this experiment could be duplicated by some of our other churches." Presbyterian: "My mind has run along this plan for years. I think this plan is a fine plan and I hope it goes on. I think that the Lord is telling you just what to do. Thank you." Methodist: "I am very impressed with the L.D.S. unique Welfare programme for which your Church is to be highly commended. Such a project demonstrates the active practice of the brotherhood principles of Christianity which most other religions lack. This is certainly the strength of the Church." Catholic: "I found this a truly interesting experience. The sincerest principles I have ever found. A programme in religion one should well be proud of. Would like to know more and have a deeper interest in organisation. As anyone can see, God has his eyes in this organisation. May the people continue to live this way. It's uplifting to anyone's morale to see that people can still work together." Baptist:

"I think this method that you are using for the people and by the people who are less fortunate than some of us, is wonderful. I believe it is God's plan of salvation. God bless you."

That God's plan of ministering to the poor is helpful and encouraging to all people is apparent from these expressions. And that the Prophet was clear in his vision when he spoke of financial support that would come is shown from the announcement in a Salt Lake City paper recently to the effect that a man of wealth, seeking the best way in which to assist the poor, and

learning of the methods and the spirit and the principles employed in the Church Welfare plan, had contributed one million dollars to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to be used in its Welfare work.

It is our sacred obligation to carry on and perfect the administration of this the Lord's plan for relief. We owe it to ourselves, to our own people and to all such people and to all the splendid people of this nation and other nations who are so earnestly and sincerely endeavouring to administer relief in the best possible way.

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## Relief Society Statistics

A COMPARATIVE report taken from the 1954 and 1955 Relief Society Annual Reports.

The purpose of this review is to find where we have improved and to inspire us to greater efforts and higher achievements.

Membership	1954	1955
Total membership at beginning of year .. ..	1,062	1,104
New members admitted during the year .. ..	214	228
Number removed, died or resigned .. ..	172	229
Total membership at end of year .. ..	1,104	1,103*
<b>Meetings Held (Regular Weekly Meetings)</b>		
Number of Theology Meetings .. ..	792	742*
Number of Work Meetings .. ..	999	844*
Number of Literary Meetings .. ..	644	655
Number of Social Science Meetings .. ..	578	541*
Total Meetings .. ..	3,013	2,782*
Relief Society Magazine Subscriptions .. ..	329	340
Visiting Teachers' Visits .. ..	2,387	2,957
Visits to Sick and Homebound .. ..	8,036	6,677*
Articles completed in Work Meetings .. ..	2,902	2,797*

\* Indicates that the figure in 1955 was less than in 1954

# **Relief Society**

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## **IDEALS**

**ELDER DAVID K. HART**

On March 17th, 1842, the Prophet, Joseph Smith, organised the Relief Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in Nauvoo, Illinois. The need was seen for an organisation through which a programme of welfare could be effectively administered. And who would be more qualified to aid the poor, nurse the sick and afflicted and generally engage in charitable works, than the sisters of the Church. And so, for these purposes, the Relief Society was established.

In order to be an effective member of any organisation, a person must live the teachings of that group. Therefore, in order to be a good member of the Relief Society, each woman must develop herself into a person befitting her noble work. President Kerr once said that the most prominent manifestation of the Holy Ghost was an all-embracing love of mankind. Just think of that, you may know positively when the Holy Ghost dwells with you. Now, in your ministrings and work, it is essential that you have the Holy Ghost with you. If there is contention in your heart, you as an individual are rendered

ineffective. And, if there is contention in your group, the whole group is put right out of action. A smooth running and efficient Relief Society will strengthen a branch immeasurably, sisters working together with love and energy. Think upon how pleasing that must be to the Lord. But, again, think upon a branch Relief Society whose ranks are rent asunder by strife and contention. Jesus Christ himself tells us who is responsible for this sort of trouble :

*For verily, verily I say unto you, he that hath the spirit of contention is not of me, but is of the devil, who is the father of contention, and he stirreth up the hearts of men to contend with anger, one with another.*  
(3 Nephi, 11 : 29)

No good works can be accomplished by a group contending within itself, and the very purpose of the organisation is disrupted. The Relief Society was established by a prophet, therefore it is the will of the Lord that it be maintained. Thus, any person causing contentions in such an organisation would find themselves in the very disturbing position of fighting against God, and no one would want to do that.

It is also a duty, and a quality greatly to be desired, for the sisters to support their husbands in the priesthood. Many of the greatest men in our Church have said that they would not be where they are today, had it not been for their faithful wives that stood beside them at all times. A loving, modest and spiritual wife is the greatest blessing any man can have. And when a wife supports and sustains her husband in his priesthood activities, then they find themselves a truly beloved pair in the sight of the Lord. The late Matthew Cowley summed it up like this :

“The man is not greater than the woman; neither is the woman greater than the man, **but the priesthood is greater than both.**”

A word of commendation must go to the wonderful Relief Society sisters here in the British Mission.

You should be praised for the fine work you have done, and that which you will do. President David O. McKay stated his feeling in this manner : “A beautiful, modest, gracious woman is creation’s masterpiece. When to these virtues a woman possesses as guiding stars in her life, righteousness and godliness and an irresistible impulse and desire to make others happy, no one will question if she be classed among those who are the truly great.” I know that the greatest persons in the lives of all of us are our parents, and the beautiful ideal we hold before us, we obtained from our mothers. This ideal of love and respect will be perpetuated throughout a person’s life by sharing between husband and wife, and the ideal is an active husband holding the priesthood, and an active wife, exemplifying the ideals set by the Relief Society.

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According to a recent letter from President Samuel E. Bringham of the Swiss Temple, “the only English sessions we have permission to hold, are those to be attended by American servicemen in Europe who have already had their endowments and wish to come to our temple to visit and do work for the dead.”

These sessions will entirely be contingent upon the number of requests that come for such a session, and at the present time there are no set dates.

Members of the Church in Great Britain should therefore be advised to await the completion of our own Temple before seeking to take out their own endowments.

# A Question Answered

*In reply to a question asked by a member of the Church here in the British Mission, President Clifton G. M. Kerr wrote this letter. We feel that it is a pertinent topic, and have printed President Kerr's reply.*

Dear Brother,

You ask in your recent letter : " Are the spirits of all those who die righteous and unrighteous often kept in prison until their resurrection ? "

At the outset Alma Chapter 40, verses 11 to 14, would seem to give conclusive answer to this question. However, there is also abundant evidence in the writings of church leaders that would seem to justify the following conclusions :

1. Paradise is the abode of all departed spirits, righteous and unrighteous.
2. A partial judgment is made and the righteous are in a state of peace and happiness.
3. The unrighteous are in a state of fear, looking for the fiery indignation of the wrath of God. " Thus they remain in this state as well as the righteous in paradise until the time of the resurrection " (See Alma Chap. 40, verses 12-14).
4. Thus paradise might be called a prison since it is a place of waiting. but the term " prison " might more aptly be applied to the abode of the unrighteous. Futhermore, it is apparent that a distinction exists between the abode of the righteous and the unrighteous in paradise (See Luke Chap. 16, verses 19-26).
5. It would therefore seem to be of little importance whether or not we think of the righteous in prison or just in a place of waiting until the resurrection.

Trusting this will be of some help, I am

Sincerely,

CLIFTON G. M. KERR.  
Mission President.

## *Attention*

# BRANCH PRESIDENCIES

## *Organisation Schedules*

The first Sunday evening of each month, the following organisations have the programme :

January . . . . .	Genealogy
February . . . . .	Priesthood
March . . . . .	Relief Society
April . . . . .	M.I.A.
May . . . . .	Primary
June . . . . .	Sunday School
July . . . . .	Priesthood
August . . . . .	Primary
September . . . . .	Genealogy
October . . . . .	M.I.A.
November . . . . .	Relief Society
December . . . . .	Sunday School

District Conventions are to be scheduled during the following months :

Sunday School . . . . .	June and July
M.I.A. . . . .	September and October
Primary . . . . .	June and July
Genealogical . . . . .	March
Relief Society . . . . .	At each district conference

**CONFERENCE CHANGE.** The Birmingham Conference has been changed to July 15th, because of the holidays.

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*Frederick W. Oates has been called as First Counsellor to  
British Mission President, Clifton G. M. Kerr*

*Elder John L. Harmer has been called as Second Counsellor  
in the Mission Presidency*

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## **A Letter to L.D.S. Serviceman**

**ELDER MARION G. ROMNEY**

*The Council of the Twelve Apostles*

Dear Brethren :

**F**OR this opportunity to greet you I am indebted and sincerely grateful to the *Millennial Star*. What I have to say is directed particularly to members of the Church serving in the armed services of the United States of America in foreign lands. For Latter-day Saints in the military service of other governments, I have the same kindly feelings. To all of you I express my sincere thanks for your service.

As I view your situation, you are in a position to render great service to two sovereigns : first, the United States of America, and second, the Saviour of the world.

All citizens of the United States have just cause to be proud of their citizenship. To wear the uniform of our government is an honour to be appreciated by every serviceman and woman. You members of the Church in uniform have cause above all others to appreciate your citizenship and honour your government, for to you it has been given to know the place which the United

States of America occupies in the mind and purposes of God. You know that His hand has been over this nation from before its inception.

As a matter of fact, for ages past the establishment of the United States under its peculiar constitutional form of government has been a part of God's plan. Approximately six hundred years before the birth of Jesus, the Lord showed to Nephi, the son of Lehi, in vision, while he was yet in the land of Jerusalem, the establishment of the United States upon the American continent. In that vision Nephi beheld Columbus being led on by the Spirit of the Lord in his historic voyage which led to the discovery of America. Nephi also beheld the war of the revolution. He witnessed the triumph of the colonists, assisted by the power of God.

According to His own testimony, the overruling Spirit of the Lord prevailed in the Constitutional Convention, for He has said, in a revelation through the Prophet,

Joseph Smith, that He, the Lord, established the constitution of the United States by the hands of wise men whom He raised up for that very purpose, and that (obviously referring to the war of the Revolution) He had redeemed the land through the shedding of blood. He further says that the purpose for which He set up the government was that men might have their free agency. "moral agency" He put it, and that they might not be in bondage to one another, that they might be free to act for themselves so that they would be responsible for their own sins in the day of judgment.

It was to further His purposes that the principles of government set forth in the constitution of the United States had to be established. And it is just as important that those principles of government be perpetuated in this our day, and in the future, as it was that they be established in the days of our fathers. It follows, therefore, as the night the day, that the services which you render in protecting your government and perpetuating the principles of freedom guaranteed in its constitution further the purposes of the Lord.

Acting in the light of this knowledge, your service should be cheerfully and ably rendered, in such a manner as to set a standard of excellence for all servicemen to emulate. From reports which reach us, we are assured that in many instances this is now the case. With all my heart I congratulate you. God bless you in your service that you may ever so act as to reflect credit upon the government you re-

present. If you do, you shall have joy in that service.

As above indicated, you occupy a dual position. Even as you serve your country—at the same time, I mean—you also represent your Redeemer. This you do as members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

And it is perfectly consistent that you should serve both your government and the Church at the same time, because they have been associated together by the Lord Himself. One of His main purposes in establishing the government of the United States was to prepare a place where His Gospel and His Church could be restored to the earth in their fullness. Because of the lack of religious freedom, they could not have been established in any other part of the earth in 1830. Even in the United States of America with its Bill of Rights, the Church in its infancy suffered great persecution. However, because of the guarantees written into the constitution, and with the help of the Lord, the Church managed to survive.

Now the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Pearl of Great Price. Although they do not recognise it, it is the greatest need of the peoples of the earth today. The peoples and nations of the world are in trouble. Nations, armed to the teeth, are pitted against one another. Little wars are in process, and big wars are in prospect. The world cannot long endure divided against itself as it is. Destruction beyond precedent is in the offing.

Our escape from this predicament does not lie wholly in our



present military establishment, nor does it lie in greater armaments. Obviously neither you in the military forces nor we in civilian life would say that we can or should refrain from matching armed strength with armed strength, but we all know that military power has never brought lasting peace in the past and that it isn't likely to do so in the future. In the light of history and of what the Lord has revealed through His prophets, we Latter-day Saints know that peace will come when, and only when, the peoples of the earth will accept and live by the true principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as revealed through the Prophet, Joseph Smith. We are acquainted with the fact that one of the purposes the Lord had in view in restoring the Gospel was to provide an escape from the threatened destruction, for He said: "I the Lord, knowing the calamity which should come upon the inhabitants of the earth, called upon my servant, Joseph Smith, Jun., and spake unto him from heaven, and gave him commandments; And also gave commandments to others, that they should proclaim these things unto the world" (D. & C. 1: 17).

The principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Priesthood have within them the only solution to the problems the world is facing. When men will accept and live by them, when they will look to Jesus and believe in Him as the Redeemer, repent and be baptised, receive the gift of the Holy Ghost and walk under His guidance, then and only then will peace and happiness come to the people of the earth.

Never forget these truths. As in the service of your country you seek to preserve the principles of freedom and justice, divinely set forth in the constitution of the United States, never forget that as members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints you possess the knowledge and the power which eventually will really bring peace. You can do more for your country in overcoming the troubles of the world and establishing that true peace through living the principles of purity and righteousness as taught in the Church and promoting these principles among men, than you can in the wielding of arms.

Be men; live righteously; put on the full armour of Christ; pray to God our Father through His holy Son Jesus Christ; be pure; observe the laws of chastity; keep your bodies free from the things the Lord has forbidden us to take into them; refrain from profanity and every other ungodly practice. "Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord" (D. & C. 38: 42). If you will do these things, you will not only be great servicemen, but you will be effective representatives of the Lord Jesus Christ. Many men, seeing in you the fruits of the Gospel, will become interested, and some of them will come into the glorious light of the Gospel.

God grant that while you serve your country you may enjoy the peace and joy of soul which comes from righteous living in His service. is my sincere prayer.

Faithfully your brother,

MARION G. ROMNEY.

# ***Stand True Young Men***

**ELDER S. DILWORTH YOUNG**

*The First Council of Seventy*



**M**ANY years ago (1918 to be exact) I was a soldier in the United States Army. I spent one week in Britain, and several months in France. This does not qualify me to give instructions but it does allow me to make comparisons.

In that day there was no organised effort to take care of the social needs of the men. We found our entertainment where we could, and in any manner available to us. We had a fine chaplain—one of the grand men of the Church, but his influence on me, so far as I can remember, was very little. I was shy and did not look him up. The various canteens (PX to you) seemed to be centered on the idea of taking a soldier's money away without adequate value received. No foreign family would take a soldier home for a meal unless he was an officer. We were strange, lonely, just a little hostile.

Nor were the folks at home organised on our behalf. No quorum or bishop ever wrote to me. And when I came home I cannot remember even a welcoming word by anyone in the ward.

It should not be like that now, if the Church concern is felt in the wards and stakes. There will be letters to all service men and women. There will be gift subscriptions of *Improvement Era* and *Church News* from the quorums. There will be organisations, with group leaders for every service group large enough to meet. If none of these things happen to you, a letter home should cause corrective steps to be taken.

Actually—during peace time—to be with the armed services in Europe is a time of magnificent opportunity. This has two phases:

1. The advantage to your personal educational opportunity.
2. The advantage to you as a Church member—a member of the Kingdom of the Lord here on the earth.

Let's take the first—

You'll visit the countries where your American culture had its beginnings. The greatest of all art is centred in the galleries and in the buildings of Europe. You may see these by a visit, but more important, you can see the people—the common people—living much as they did when the inspiration for the art forms was received by its creators. I can remember the great impression made on me of a picture of Christ in Lazarus' tomb hanging in the great cathedral in Bordeaux. The French

countryside at Voille (a small village near Portiers) was just about as it was many centuries ago—the people still living as simply as in the days of knighthood. I understood more about the people who produced Joan of Arc because of a stay there.

During your stay you'll have a chance to see the life in other countries. You may be able to go to Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Sweden, Denmark. These broadening visits are of great value to a college education in the humanities and the arts—and will help you to do a better job at college if you keep your eyes open and are alert to the history of peoples. Many of these people may seem backward to you, but you can go forward learning about them. Furthermore, it is your duty and privilege as a Latter-day Saint to develop yourself in the best cultural gifts as you travel.

And now the second:

Greater than these external things is the life which makes solid in your heart the truths of the gospel.

You will live in very close proximity to men who do not obey the laws of virtue or honour. You will have no trouble in knowing where such things lead to, and will choose the one leading to satisfaction and joy through chastity, integrity, and devotion to your ideals.

You will discover how far-reaching can be the home ties. If you are wise you will keep these channels open and free from blocks. Letters to your bishop and your quorum president will pay dividends in strengthening help through their responsive love as they reach out to you.

You are now out in the world, your own free agent. You may judge the true value of your teaching on your life. Here you likely will make some of your most important decisions. What part will the gospel play from now on? Can you pay tithing and fast offerings to support the Lord's work? Can you join with the other members in common projects and meetings? Can you bear your witness that you know the truth of the restoration of the Gospel? No one at home will have enough influence to sway you now—you must make your own decisions. There will be one great joy for you to find, too. If you make the right decisions, some day some fellow member of your outfit will want to know what makes you different than others (for if you follow the principles, you will be different). And your soul will find the true meaning of joy as you explain to him the gospel, the restoration, and hear yourself bearing witness of the true mission of Joseph Smith and of the Lord's purposes with us. Should you be fortunate enough to see the light come into his eyes as the spirit bears witness to him, you will know the meaning of what the Lord meant when he said "And if ye . . . bring save it be one soul . . . how great shall be your joy with him in the kingdom of my Father!"<sup>1</sup>

These things done—and well done—you will have proved to the Lord you are determined to serve Him. On your return there will be no end to the opportunities and experiences you will have which will finally bring you with the presence of your Father in Heaven.

Stand true young men. The eyes of the Church are upon you, as our hearts and hands are with you to support you. We have faith in you and in your future.

<sup>1</sup> D. & C. 18 : 15.

# Religion and the Serviceman

WILLIAM V. WESTENSKOW

*L.D.S. Servicemans' Co-ordinator*

**I**N a day when rumours of war are resounding throughout the world, and when nation is rising against nation, we find great stress being placed upon military might. This is probably one of the most notable examples we have of mankind, in general, placing trust in the arm of flesh. The Lord does expect us to defend our lives, families and homes against unrighteous aggression, and that too, with armed might. But the point that is commonly overlooked, however, is that this defence must be coupled with righteous living on the part of the defenders, and the Lord has stated that he will help us fight our battles if this be the case. The only road to permanent and lasting peace is the living of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It will never be attained by warfare, especially when neither side of the battle is keeping the commandments of God.

Under present world conditions it is inevitable that thousands upon thousands of our young men of the Church will be drawn into the armed forces of many different nations. Righteousness is by no means in the majority in the world, neither is it in the majority in the military. The environment of military life is about the same as civilian life, possessing every element—ranging from the worst in life, to the best in life. Perhaps the only great difference is that we are re-

quired to live and work in close quarters with an undesirable environment which we would not do ordinarily. Because of this condition we are faced with more frequent and stronger temptations than we are at probably any other time of our lives. We do not speak the same language as the rest of the world. Their idea of humour and of having a good time does not always coincide with the concept set forth by the Church. Consequently when we find ourselves in such an environment we feel lost and out of place.

No matter what our circumstances might be, we must never consider ourselves as victims of circumstances and follow the course of least resistance and the current of the stream. We must unceasingly endeavour to overcome all the undesirable elements in our lives. We do have control over our environment, and it is most important that each individual govern his environment wisely. The Lord has said, "forsake all evil and cleave unto all good", and it is surely within our power to do this. First, we must avoid the very appearance of evil. We will find enough of it without looking for it. Where we cannot avoid it, then we must shun it, and in all cases overcome it. But to avoid and shun evil is not enough. We must make a constant endeavour to seek out a better environment.

We may not be able to transform an undesirable environment into a desirable one, but we may choose to replace parts of our environment with more desirable elements.

The term "religion" is one which has been used quite frequently in various ways and to some people has become rather distasteful. But if we properly understand what true religion is then it can have a beautiful meaning to us. True religion is more than just a form of worship. It is a way of life. The perfect life is set forth in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And here we get a direct association between religion and environment. Religion is a way of life, and life is made up of environment. The Church, therefore, should make up a very important part of everyone's environment. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints constitutes the kingdom of God here on the earth, and is the agency through which the Lord has intended for his gospel to be disseminated throughout all the world. The Gospel itself is all encompassing covering every phase of life, and our every act and thought is affected by it.

While being in the military forces we often feel the need of improving our environment. Because of the great importance of the gospel in our lives, our first effort should be directed toward making contact with a branch of the Church, attending and participating as much as possible. If there are other members of the Church stationed at the same location, we should endeavour to associate with them, and at all times seek the finest of companions whom we can respect and who in turn will respect the things that we stand for.

War is most certainly an evil thing, but despite this fact, the Lord is able to use these terrible conditions to accomplish much good. Think of the thousands of members of the Church who are serving in the armed forces. Many of them active and faithful, and there are possibly hundreds of them who are returned missionaries. The potential for missionary work is great, and I dare say that hundreds of people have been made acquainted with the Gospel and brought into the Church through the efforts of the faithful Latter-day Saints in the service of their countries. Remember that you may be the only "Mormon" that many people will ever see, and the impression that you leave could possibly have a lasting influence in the life of some people. It is a great responsibility, a great opportunity, and the youth of Zion shall not "falter in defending truth and right".

The Saviour said, "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it." This does not refer to the giving of one's physical life. It means to lose one's life in unselfish service to God and fellow-men, through love. We see so many people trying to save their lives by building themselves up in the pride of their hearts, lusting after prestige, honour, and the material things of life, and while seeking to save their life, they lose it. "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Let us be wise, humble, and honourable servants to our God, our country, and our fellow-men.

## The Lord's Controversy

### with the Nations

WE hear a great deal and we see a great deal in the prints today about this great second world war. I think in a previous talk I said I did not call it the second world war. This is the first world war of 1914 to 1918, and even that was not the beginning. I have been asked a great many times if I thought this present war was the great last war before the coming of Christ, and I have said yes; but I do not mean when I say this that we will not have another spell, another armistice, when they may lay down their arms for a season only to get ready to take them up again, although I hope that will not be the case. I think the great world war commenced in April, 1861. At any rate, that was the beginning of the end, and I am going to read to you this prophecy on war given to the Prophet Joseph Smith on Christmas Day in the year 1832.

"Verily, thus saith the Lord concerning the wars that will shortly come to pass, beginning at the rebellion of South Carolina, which will eventually terminate in the death and misery of many souls:

"And the time will come that war will be poured out upon all nations, *beginning at this place.*

"For behold, the Southern States shall be divided against the Northern States and the Southern States will call upon other nations, even the nation of Great Britain,

as it is called, and they shall also call upon other nations, in order to defend themselves against other nations; and then war shall be poured out upon all nations.

"And it shall come to pass, after many days, slaves shall rise up against their masters, who shall be marshalled and disciplined for war.

"And it shall come to pass also that the remnants who are left of the land will marshal themselves, and shall become exceedingly angry, and shall vex the Gentiles with a sore vexation.

"And thus, with the sword and by bloodshed the inhabitants of the earth shall mourn; and with famine, and plague, and earthquake, and the thunder of heaven, and the fierce and vivid lightning also, shall the inhabitants of the earth be made to feel the wrath, and indignation, and chastening hand of an Almighty God, until the consumption decreed hath made a full end of all nations;

"That the cry of the saints, and the blood of the saints, shall cease to come up into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth, from the earth, to be avenged of their enemies.

"Wherefore, stand ye in holy places, and be not moved, until the day of the Lord come; for behold it cometh quickly, saith the Lord. Amen." (Doctrine & Covenants, Section 87.)

Now, that's the revelation. You find here written, then that the Lord

said that beginning with the rebellion of South Carolina eventually war would be poured out upon all nations. That was a very bold thing to say; that is, if the Lord had not said it. Some people think that the Prophet said it, not the Lord, but he would not have dared to have made a statement of that kind of himself because in 1832 there was no thought in minds of men that eventually, beginning with the rebellion of South Carolina, the time would come when the whole world would be in conflict.

I only want to refer to this briefly because I want to go on to other things, but let us consider some things that grew out of the war of the rebellion.

Up until the rebellion of South Carolina, warfare was very crude, judged from the standpoint of warfare today. They had no machine guns. They had no submarines. They had no armour-clad vessels, and a great many other things that we have today that men are using in this terrible destruction were unknown. In all of the wars up to that time and largely even in that war the vessels that were used were wooden vessels. The guns would not shoot so very far. They were made to penetrate wood, but out of that war we call the Civil War there came the ironclad. There came the submarine. There came the machine gun. There came the use of balloons. Of course, they did not have airplanes, but they used balloons, and a great many other things that are now used had their beginning in that conflict.

We are familiar with the great battle which played such a great part in the Civil War between the Monitor and the Merrimac, the two ironclads, and the Monitor was

the first iron vessel with a turret. From that time the nations have had to revise their method of warfare, and I maintain that war has been going on in this world ever since, perhaps not open conflict, and yet I am not so sure that there has not been somewhere upon the face of the earth open conflict since that day. It would be a nice thing some day to go into our history and find out if hostilities have not been going on somewhere upon the face of the earth ever since the Civil War, but whether so or not it makes little difference.

Out of that war came the modern instruments of destruction. The nations had to build stronger guns. They had to build steel vessels. Then they built great guns that would penetrate steel, and then thicker armour for their vessels so that the guns could not penetrate, and then still more powerful guns to penetrate the armour, and this warfare has been going on ever since, and from that very day until the outbreak of the present war, nations have been preparing, increasing their armaments, and almost everything that we have today—not everything but nearly everything—has developed from that which was discovered or invented during the Civil War. They did not have the radio, but they had the telegraph.

And so what the Lord says is absolutely true. Would the Prophet of himself dare say that eventually war would be poured out upon all nations? I do not think he would dare say that because he would not have inspiration enough without the help of the Lord to declare that the time would come when peace would be taken from the earth and the whole world would be in conflict.

It was only a few months before the outbreak of the war in 1914 when David Starr Jordan said in a number of places, and he said it right here in the Salt Lake Tabernacle, that the nations could never go to war again. It was too expensive. The financiers would not finance a war and, therefore, we could not have a war, and almost before his words quit echoing the great conflict broke out.

### **The Voice of the Lord to All Men**

I want to read to you one or two things from the revelations. The Lord proclaimed to all the world the restoration of the Gospel. He called upon the nations of the earth and upon the Church to heed this warning, and I will read to you from the Doctrine and Covenants, Section 1, beginning with the first verse.

“Hearken, O ye people of My church, saith the voice of him who dwells on high, and whose eyes are upon all men; yea, verily I say: Hearken ye people from afar; and ye that are upon the islands of the sea, listen together.

“For verily the voice of the Lord is unto all men, and there is none to escape; and there is no eye that shall not see, neither ear that shall not hear, neither heart that shall not be penetrated.

“And the rebellious shall be pierced with much sorrow; for their iniquities shall be spoken upon the housetops, and their secret acts shall be revealed.”

So this proclamation as we explained in other talks was made. The missionaries went forth to preach this Gospel to the nations of the earth crying repentance and calling upon them to repent and turn to God and keep His commandments, and the nations have

refused. They did not want the message.

I want to read to you a few words from Section 133. In verses 17 and 18 the Lord says:

“For behold, the Lord God hath sent forth the angel crying through the midst of heaven, saying: Prepare ye the way of the Lord, and make his paths straight, for the hour of his coming is nigh—

“When the Lamb shall stand upon Mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty-four thousand, having his Father’s name written on their foreheads.”

And so He sent the Elders forth with that message.

### **The Wicked to be Cut Off**

The verses that I want to read to you contain a declaration from the Lord of judgment upon the nations because they refuse to hear.

“And upon them that hearken not to the voice of the Lord shall be fulfilled that which was written by the prophet Moses that they should be cut off from among the people.

“And also that which was written by the prophet Malachi: For, behold, the day cometh that shall burn as an oven, and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble; and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, and it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

“Wherefore, this shall be the answer of the Lord unto them.”

To make clear what I shall read I will make a comment at this point.

The people, when they see the judgments of the Lord and when His sign is given, the sign of His coming according to these words and according to the words of Isaiah, will want to know what it is all about. They will say, “Who is



this that comes with dyed garments", because we understand the Lord will come in red apparel as one that has trodden in the wine vat. And so they will ask, "What do you mean by all of this?" And so the Lord will say unto them, "This shall be the answer."

"In that day when I came unto mine own, no man among you received me, and you were driven out.

"When I called again there was none of you to answer; yet my arm was not shortened at all that I could not redeem, neither my power to deliver.

"Behold, at my rebuke I dry up the sea. I make the rivers a wilderness; their fish stink, and die for thirst.

"I clothe the heavens with blackness, and make sackcloth their covering.

"And this shall ye have of my hand—ye shall lie down in sorrow."

Lie down in sorrow, why? Because you have rejected the message of the Gospel which was sent unto you. Now to continue.

"Behold, and lo, there are none to deliver you: for ye obeyed not my voice when I called to you out of the heavens; ye believed not my servants, and when they were sent unto you ye received them not.

"Wherefore, they sealed up the testimony and bound up the law, and ye were delivered over unto darkness.

"These shall go away into outer darkness, where there is weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth.

"Behold the Lord your God hath spoken it. Amen."

### **The Lord's Controversy with the Nations**

So we see that the Lord had a controversy with the nations be-

cause they have rejected His servants; because they rejected Him first; and when He sent others unto them, they treated them the same way they treated Him and refused to receive the truth, therefore, in this day of judgment when the cup of iniquity is full they shall lie down in sorrow and there shall be none to deliver them.

Don't you forget it was the Lord who said that!

In the book of Matthew, 24th chapter, and again in the book of Luke, the 21st chapter, we have the teachings of the Saviour to His disciples in regard to events as they are unfolding in this present day, and I am going to read a few of these verses from the 21st chapter of Luke, beginning with the 25th verse.

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

"Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth; for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

"And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads: for your redemption draweth nigh.

"And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees;

"When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand.

"So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand."

## Branch and District Activities

### Nottingham

A farewell social for *Elder Clarence McBride*, who has served as District President, was held after District Preparation meeting on January 14th. He was presented with Sheffield cutlery in token of appreciation for his labours there.

*Nottingham* investigators provided several items at the grand social held at Mansfield to celebrate the re-opening of the *Mansfield* Sunday School on January 28th.

On February 5th the Nottingham Branch welcomed home *Brother Neil McEwan* who had been in Hong Kong for nearly a year, where he has rendered sterling service in the new Southern Asiatic Mission.

A farewell party was held at Trentmor for *Sister Alma Tinson* on leaving for a full-time Mission. *Sister Tinson* has given devoted service in Sunday School and Primary work for many years and will be missed in the Branch.

*Derby Branch* held a Sunday School Party and prizegiving on January 21st. After a fine tea supplied by the sisters of the Relief Society the children were kept amused with games organised by *Brothers Cooper and Sherlock*—adults joined in too! Prizes were then given and *Raymond Allen* and *Charles Culley* are to be congratulated on missing only one Sunday

School attendance during the past year.

On January 31st *Sister Anderson of Derby* invited the members of the Branch to her home to a haggis supper. Everyone (including *Sassenachs*) had a most enjoyable evening.



*Nottingham District Saints at a concert at Mansfield*

### Birmingham

Fifty-six children enjoyed a party held under the auspices of the Sunday School and Primary of the Rugby Branch in the St. John Ambulance hall on January 25th. Games were directed by *Brothers Elgers and Grundy*, while tea was served by the Relief Society sisters.

On Friday, January 27th, the Priesthood of the *Leicester Branch* sat down to a Fathers' and Sons' Banquet. It was the first to be held in the Branch and was much enjoyed by all in attendance, includ-



Guests at the Leicester Father-Sons Banquet

ing the District President and his companion. The meal was prepared by Brother Thomas Rush, assisted by Brother Ernest Bray.

Forty members and friends of the Branch attended to hear a talk and demonstration on Safety First by Sgt. Taylor of the Leicester City Police. A social followed being a welcome home for Brother Trevor Berwicke who has returned from the Far East and for Sister Barbara Waldrom who has just completed a mission.

A concert, which included the talent of the Nottingham District, was held in the *Manfield Branch* on Saturday, January 28th. One hundred and six members and friends attended and enjoyed many humorous items, including one from District President Hufstetler and his companion. The function was organised by Brother T. Rush.

### Sheffield

A visit from The "STRAD-BROKE PLAYERS" proved very enjoyable and entertaining to the *Sheffield Branch* on February 4th. The proceeds were devoted to the Sunday School, who benefited greatly from them.

### Newcastle

Brother Robert Graham has been released from the position of 1st Counsellor in the *Newcastle Branch* with a vote of thanks for his labours. The Presidency has been re-organised as follows: Brother Wilfred McCorry as President; Brother James Selkirk as 1st Counsellor and Brother Ernest Cooper as 2nd Counsellor with Brother Gordon Mathews as Branch clerk.

An intensified Missionary campaign has been opened in Newcastle. Saturday night cinema queues are canvassed and meetings held regularly in the "Big Market" on Sunday evenings.

On January 17th and 24th *Sister Gladys Quayle* of the *Sunderland Branch* addressed the sisterhoods of the High Street and Murton Street Methodist Missions. She also rendered two solos.

*Sunderland M.I.A.* entertained over 140 "over sixties" with a concert on January 17th.

President Oates gave a film show to about 250 juveniles and later to approximately 100 adults in the Presbyterian Church on January 19th.

"The Young at Heart" was the feature film for the Budget event held on January 27th. Refreshments were served by the Relief Society sisters. More non-members have joined in the Budget Plan.

On Monday, January 30th, President F. W. Oates addressed the members of the Independent Order of Good Templars in the Thompson Memorial Hall and Sister Quayle rendered two solos. They have been asked to take over the Devotional services which occur once monthly for both the Pride of the Wear Temple and the General

contacts are being made and several Havelock. Through this many new are attending our services.

The young lady-member missionaries are doing a fine work in Sunderland among college students whom they bring to Church on Sunday evenings. They stay to M.I.A. firesides and the Missionary Plan lessons are presented.

### **London**

*Romford Branch* held a party on January 14th in the Assembly Hall Annex where Father Christmas (a little late) arrived with presents for the children. Wholehearted co-operation from the sisters in the M.I.A. study group provided the kind of party food to make the children happy. Twenty-one children had 19 adults to keep them amused and all voted the party A1.

On Saturday, January 14th, a fine combined effort by the Primary and Sunday School organisations of the *South London Branch* resulted in 40/50 children thoroughly enjoying themselves at their annual party. Plenty of party food, games and entertainment provided by the children themselves was eagerly devoured while gifts for each child proved the climax of the event. The senior students of the Sunday School enjoyed a visit to the circus as their treat.

A Leap Year dance was sponsored by the M.I.A. of the South London Branch on Saturday, January 21st. Admittance was free! (The possible gains were enormous!) It proved a very happy occasion for all who attended.

### **Liverpool**

*Nelson Branch* Sunday School held their annual party on January 7th. There was a knife and fork tea

with cakes and trifle following and a short social with games and a little dancing for the adults.

*Brother and Sister Warren* of the *Preston Branch* opened their home to 14 members of the Branch on January 28th. A social evening was well enjoyed with a potatoe pie supper to follow. Proceeds were given to the Sunday School funds.

### **Birmingham**

First meeting of the *Fourth Quorum of Elders* in the British Mission since its organisation last year was held in the Birmingham Chapel on February 4th. Forty-four members of the Priesthood were gathered together, many of whom had travelled from the outlying Districts of Rugby, Kidderminster, Nottingham and Wolverhampton. Even Wales was represented in the person of President Pulman. Elder George Makin, President of the Quorum, was in the Chair, and President Clifton Kerr, of the British Mission, was present and addressed the brethren.

On the evening of the same day Birmingham M.I.A.'s held a grand ball in the newly-opened Y.M.C.A. building in Birmingham. This ambitious project was well supported, more than 300 people being in attendance. Included in the evening's programme were demonstrations of the Irish jig and square dancing.

Worcester Branch held a party on January 21st when members and their families and friends gathered at the Co-operative Hall, Barbourne, for fun and games. Sandwiches, trifle, fruit, cream and cakes, prepared by the Relief Society were served at 4 p.m. Games followed under the direction of Sister Coleman and Brother Harry Jones.

Each child was given a present before leaving.

### **Irish**

The *Belfast Branch* Sunday School held a "Basket Lunch" on January 14th. This required the young ladies of the branch to fill and decorate a basket of food, put their name on it and give them in. Part way through the proceedings these baskets were auctioned to the highest bidders, they not knowing the name of the preparer. Both, on discovery of one another, enjoyed the food and each other's association. A quite hilarious time was had by all. Sister Sally Cully conducted the evening and Brother Joseph Ditty acted as auctioneer.

An Open Night was held by the M.I.A. of the Branch on January 25th. All members and friends were invited to hear a special programme given by the M-Men and Gleaners. Each member of the class was assigned to speak on one of the Church Temples and Temple sites. It proved very interesting and was followed with a film showing of the slides "The Stick of Joseph" and Latter-day Temples. The programme was conducted by Brother Frank Hillis.

The Genealogical Committee of the Branch held a social on January 28th to raise funds. Some 50 members and friends were present. The social was conducted by Brother James Galbraith and the programme organised by Brother John Harpur.

### **Manchester**

On Saturday, February 4th, the *1956 Gold and Green Ball of Manchester District* was held at Rochdale. Over 100 people attended

including a number from the Halifax Branch. The music of the Bill Duncan Trio contributed greatly toward the success of the evening and a special "Thank you" is due to the Missionaries who worked so hard in preparing the hall and decorating it. A buffet refreshment service was laid on under the able direction of Brother Harry Withington. What might have been a catastrophe was averted by the resourcefulness of the Rochdale members when the water supply froze up. Solos were rendered during the second half of the programme by Sister Bette Davis and Elder Penrose.

*Bury Branch*, which has lacked Priesthood in the past, is now progressing, since no fewer than five brethren have been ordained to the Priesthood in the last 18 months. Regular meetings are held each week and the first Branch Teacher's meeting was held on February 10th.

*Oldham Branch* was the locale for a District Social held under the supervision of the M.I.A. on January 22nd. The weather was bad but the attendance was good. Entertainment consisted of dancing and games, while special items were rendered as follows: a solo by Sister Bette Davis; Sisters Sylvia Mills and Mary Giles in a double act "A Couple of Swells"; two Bee-hive girls, Dorothy Mills and Carol Needham sang and acted "The Shoemaker's Shop" and Brother Samuel Mills rendered a solo. The Relief Society sisters completed the evening with a choral number. Refreshments, supervised by Sister Olive Davis, were thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Oldham held their annual children's party on January 25th under the direction of Brother Samuel

Mills and Sister Francis Robinson. Prizes were awarded in order of merit for attendance at Sunday School. Highest marks were gained by Eileen Mills, Dorothy Mills, Barbara Mills, Kenneth Robinson and Melvyn Robinson.

*Wythenshawe* held their children's party on January 7th. It was organised by the Sunday School Superintendent, Brother Frank Wattleworth, with help from his Assistants, Brother Roy Caddick and Brother William Roberts. Games were played and a magician performed mystifying tricks for the children. Santa Claus made another late appearance and presented gifts to every child. Sisters Doris Wattleworth and Pat Isherwood are to be commended for their hard work in making these gifts since they sewed about 50 hand puppets and little vanity cases.

A drama group has now been organised in the branch and is working hard to present two plays in the near future.

### **Bristol**

On Monday, January 30th, the M.I.A. of the *Bournemouth Branch* enjoyed a Musical evening. Sister E. Aubrey read stories from the Music Masters, and President Summersell had the group guessing at Tapping tunes and Jumbled songs. Sister Kilbey rendered two solos and there was plenty of community singing to round off the programme. Cheese biscuits and mince tarts were prepared and served by the two youngest members, Sister V. Lipp and Brother C. Summersell.

Tuesday, January 31st, proved to be a very interesting Relief Society night. Mrs. Jones attended and talked on India. She has lived and worked among the children and

people of Central India and her remarks were absorbing.

### **Leeds**

Brother Nicholas Murphy, new Superintendent of the *Dewsbury Branch Sunday School*, organised a trip to Leeds Grand Theatre to see "Humpty Dumpty" on January 14th.

*Leeds Branch* held their first Budget Social of 1956 on January 26th. It was a "Faith" social. Several good items were presented for the entertainment of those present, among them being the highlight "The Four Continentals", comprising Sisters Hedi Zweifel, Lina Leuringer (Switzerland), Sister Roma Bartotto (Italy) and Sister Jacqueline Cella (France), who joined in singing the lovely "Santa Lucia". Sister Anne Wigglesworth entertained with a very sweet rendering of "Little Mary Fawcett".

The brethren of the Branch have been somewhat secretly engaged of late and many eyes were opened on Sunday, January 29th, when seeing the new speakers' rostrum. It adds greatly to the appearance of the Branch chapel.

### **Norwich**

A most enjoyable time was had by all who attended the party held on Saturday, January 7th, in the *Chelmsford Branch*. The evening went with a swing from start to finish and Elders Asper and Johansen entertained with a very amusing skit. Thanks are due to President Hunt for a pleasant evening.

On Sunday, January 29th, Brother Frank Coleby, *Lowestoft Sunday School* Superintendent, presented prizes to two boys who had achieved 100 per cent attendance at Sunday School during 1955. They

were Gerald Bell, aged 8, who travels 8 miles each time he comes, and Paul Runacres aged 11. They both received books of Bible Stories.

The Primary of the *Norwich Branch* held their annual party on January 7th. The children were kept very active by Sister, Pamela Wilson, Margaret Wilson and Hazel Martins who graduated into M.I.A. in October last.

The Sunday School Party was held January 21st. There was a good attendance and plenty of amusement for both children and adults. Each child was presented with a present at the end of an enjoyable evening.

### **Personals**

#### **Births and Blessings**

*Crisp.* On December 25th, 1955, President W. H. Crisp blessed his adopted daughter and gave her the names of Janet Elizabeth.

*Womersley.* The adopted son of Brother and Sister Womersley was blessed on December 25th by Brother Jefferey Day and given the name of David.

*Gardiner.* The infant son of Sister Winifred Gardiner was blessed on February 5th by Brother Sidney Coleby and given the names of Kevin Alan.

*Leyland.* A son was born to Sister and Brother Leyland of the Wigan Branch on October 5th, 1955. He was blessed November 6th and given the names of Brian Harry.

*Webster.* A daughter was born to Sister and Brother Geoffrey Webster of the Wigan Branch, June 21st, 1955. She was blessed and given the names of Laverne Susan on July 3rd, 1955.

*Bland.* A son was born to Sister and Brother Bland of the Nottingham Branch on February 4th.

*Quinn.* The infant daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Quinn (formerly Sister Brenda Crosby) was blessed by President Fred Oates of Sunderland on December 25th and given the names of Valerie Elaine.

*Allred.* A son was born to Sister and Brother Dean H. Allred on September 23rd, 1955. The child was blessed by his father who is serving in the U.S. Forces, on November 6th in the Ipswich Branch and given the names of Dean Scott.

*Beatie.* A son was born to Sister and Brother John Beatie of the Belfast Branch on January 3rd, 1956.

*Smylie.* A daughter was born to Sister and Brother David Smylie of Belfast on January 29th, 1956.

*Wallace.* A son was born to Sister and Brother Ivan Wallace of Belfast on February 3rd, 1956.

*Hamer.* A daughter was born to Sister and Mr. Hamer of Wythen-shawe on January 7th.

### **Engagements**

*Carter - Beverley.* Sister Joyce Carter has become engaged to Brother Briton Beverley. Both are well-loved members of the Ashton-Hyde Branch. Sister Carter served until quite recently as Y.W.M.I.A. Supervisor in the Manchester District. Bother Beverley emigrated to the U.S.A. five years ago but returned on a visit last September. Both will go to the U.S. in June of this year.

*Johnson - Jevons.* Sister Dawn Johnson became engaged to Brother Donald Jevons in February. Both are members of the Birmingham Branch.

*Laycock - Crossley.* Sister Shirley Laycock became engaged to Brother Barrie Crossley on January 7th. Sister Laycock is a member of the Sheffield Branch and Brother Crossley a member of the New-

chapel Branch. He is now serving in the Forces.

### **Marriages**

*Meek - Nicoll.* Sister Phyllis Meek was married to John Guild Nicol in the Dundee Chapel on Saturday, December 31st, 1955. The ceremony was performed by President Black. The bride wore pink nylon.

### **Deaths**

*Castleton.* Sister Kate Castleton, of the Lowestoft Branch, died on February 4th at the age of 74 years. The burial took place on Wednesday, February 8th, the service being held in the Lowestoft Branch under the direction of Branch President William H. Daniels. District President Ronald W. Asper dedicated the grave. Sister Castleton had been a faithful member of the Church for many years. She is survived by her husband and two sons.

*Cavanagh.* Sister Ellen M. Cavanagh passed away in Utah at the age of 84. She was formerly a member of the Gainsborough Branch and her grandson, Elder Clarke, is now serving a Mission in the Newcastle District.

*Leaberry.* Sister Violet Leaberry, of the Barnsley Branch, passed away on the morning of Sunday, January 8th. She was 71 years of age and had been ill for some time. She will best be remembered as an active worker in the Relief Society ever since her conversion 55 years ago. She served as a Missionary during the 1914-18 War. The funeral service was held January 11th in the Barnsley Chapel, under the direction of President Atkin. Talks were given by Sister Margaret Smith and Muriel Holton and Brother Birkhead. "O, My Father "

was sung at the graveside and Elder Thackeray dedicated the grave.

*Stevens.* Sister Margaret Louise Stevens passed away on January 14th, 1956. She was the oldest member of the Brighton Branch and will be missed by her many friends. At the funeral service, conducted by Branch President W. E. Mitchell in the Brighton Chapel, Elder Edmund W. Wheatley paid a beautiful tribute to Sister Stevens for her loyalty to the Church. President Clifton G. M. Kerr dedicated the grave.

### **Ordinations to the Priesthood**

On December 18th, Brian Hayes, to the office of Priest under the hand of Elder Kenneth J. Poole.

On January 15th, Lionel Charles Wooster to the office of Deacon under the hand of Elder Oliver Storer.

On January 15th, Thomas William Arthur Heszeltine to the office of Teacher, under the hand of Elder Derek Cuthbert.

All of the Nottingham District.

On February 5th, James William Such to the office of Elder under the hand of President Clifton G. M. Kerr.

On February 5th, John Blaine Joseph to the office of Priest, under the hand of Elder Karl G. Wood.

On February 5th, David Mace, to the office of Priest under the hand of President John Kitsell.

On December 4th, Robert Mawle to the office of Deacon under the hand of Elder Horace J. Mawle.

All of the Birmingham District.

On February 5th, George Lomas to the office of Deacon; James Booth to the office of Deacon; Leonard Arnold to the office of Teacher.



All of the Manchester District.

On January 15th, Brian Yull Crowther, to the office of Teacher under the hand of Elder Ronnie Bray.

On January 15th, Dennis Livesey, to the office of Deacon, under the hand of President F. K. Shreeve.

On January 15th, Frank Crowther, to the office of Deacon, under the hand of Elder Roy Simon.

All are of the Huddersfield Branch.

On December 4th, John W. Steele to the office of Deacon, under the hand of Elder Ronald J. Asper.

On January 8th, Keith Andrews,

to the office of Deacon, under the hand of Elder Ronald J. Asper.

Both are members of the Colchester Branch.

On February 5th, Ronald Haines, to the office of Priest, under the hand of President William H. Daniels, in the Lowestoft Branch.

On January 15th, Thomas Akenhead, to the office of Priest under the hand of President F. W. Oates.

On January 15th, John Fenwick, to the office of Priest under the hand of District President Ronald S. Eliason.

Both are of the Newcastle District.

## MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES

### ARRIVALS :

*December 21st, 1955*

Elder Ronnie Almond

Elder Russell Blair Kinnersley, Jr.

*January 24th, 1956*

Elder Gene Lee Brady

Elder Lee Cornell Chamberlain

Elder LaMar Capener

Elder Jon George Clark

Elder Harrison Maughan Davis

Elder George Eddy Dutton

Elder Raymond Harris Hafen

Elder Michael Richards Hinckley

Elder Ralston James Hogge

Elder Lynn Burton Kerr

Elder Robert Len Puffer

Elder Vance H. Walker

*February 6th, 1956*

Elder Wallace Keith Godderidge

Elder Ross Arthur Jenkins

Elder William Rolfe Kerr

Elder Newel Standley

*February 7th, 1956*

Sister Greta-Jean Loughton

Sister Alma Edith Tinson

*February 17th, 1956*

Elder Joseph M. Ditty

### *From*

Salt Lake City, Utah

Salt Lake City, Utah

Midvale, Utah

Glendale, Utah

Riverside, Utah

Provo, Utah

Ogden, Utah

Delta, Utah

Provo, Utah

Salt Lake City, Utah

Rigby, Idaho

Tremonton, Utah

Beaver, Utah

Clifton, Idaho

Smithfield, Utah

Newton, Utah

Tremonton, Utah

Murray, Utah

London, England

Stapleford, Notts., England

Belfast, Ireland

### *To*

Liverpool

Bristol

Sheffield

Nottingham

Liverpool

London

Wales

Hull

Nottingham

Norwich

Norwich

Bristol

Sheffield

Leeds

Leeds

Wales

Trav. Elder

Leeds

Newcastle

Norwich

Liverpool

### TRANSFERS :

Elder Louis H. Callister, Jr.

Elder Claudins E. Olsen

Elder Raymond W. Short

Elder Edwin L. Hippard

Elder Merrill Don Bellows

Elder John Bullock

Sister Winifred Bullock

Elder Larry J. Bullough

Elder Norman H. Jackson

Sister Mary Walker

### *From*

Leeds

Norwich

Leeds

Manchester

Ireland

Liverpool

Liverpool

Birmingham

Leeds

Norwich

### *To*

Norwich

Newcastle

Manchester

Leeds

Birmingham

Leeds

Leeds

Liverpool

Ireland

Newcastle

### *Date Effective*

January 13th, 1956

January 13th, 1956

February 2nd, 1956

February 2nd, 1956

February 9th, 1956

February 9th, 1956

February 9th, 1956

February 9th, 1956

February 9th, 1956

February 9th, 1956

**APPOINTMENTS :**

**Elder Robert G. Hufstetler** was appointed President of Nottingham District, January 24th, 1956.

**Elder Fred W. Oates**, of Sunderland, Newcastle District, was appointed First Counsellor to Mission President, January 30th, 1956.

**Elder John L. Harmer** labouring in the Welsh District was appointed Second Counsellor to Mission President, February 12th, 1956.

**RELEASES :**

January 25th, 1956

**Elder Clarence E. McBride**

February 16th, 1956

**Elder Robert Adam Duncan**

**Elder Robert Wayne Cutler**

*From*

Pima, Arizona

Salt Lake City, Utah

Corinne, Utah

\* District President

*Served in*

London, Newcastle, Welsh and Nottingham\* Districts

Nottingham and Scottish Districts

Hull District



**ELDER CLARENCE  
E. McBRIDE**



**ELDER ROBERT  
A. DUNCAN**



**ELDER ROBERT  
W. CUTLER**

Following have received certificates for having completed the British Mission Speaking Teaching Course :

<b>Margaret Gregson</b>	Edinburgh	Scottish	January 10th, 1956
<b>Audrey Hope</b>	Edinburgh	Scottish	January 10th, 1956
<b>Lilias Tate</b>	Edinburgh	Scottish	January 10th, 1956
<b>Elinor Watson</b>	Edinburgh	Scottish	January 10th, 1956
<b>Robert Spikin</b>	Edinburgh	Scottish	January 10th, 1956
<b>James Duff</b>	Edinburgh	Scottish	January 10th, 1956
<b>Archibald Maxwell</b>	Aberdeen	Scottish	February 13th, 1956
<b>William Black</b>	Aberdeen	Scottish	February 13th, 1956
<b>Joseph Coull</b>	Aberdeen	Scottish	February 13th, 1956
<b>Isabel Coull</b>	Aberdeen	Scottish	February 13th, 1956
<b>Patricia Mair</b>	Aberdeen	Scottish	February 13th, 1956
<b>Lillian Parle</b>	Aberdeen	Scottish	February 13th, 1956

**BAPTISMS :**

**Birmingham District**

**Marjorie Doris Grundy** of Rugby  
**Lesley Ann Grundy** of Rugby  
**Sandra Margaret Grundy** of Rugby  
**Maureen Doris Grundy** of Rugby  
**Joan Ann Miles** of Rugby  
**John Robert Miles** of Rugby

**Leeds District**

**William Edward R. Waite** of Halifax  
**Boris Roberts** of Huddersfield  
**Cynthia May Jessop** of Leeds  
**Jean Brown** of Wakefield  
**George Brown** of Wakefield

**Liverpool District**

**Frank Prescott** of Liverpool  
**Eric Sherrington** of Wigan

**Newcastle District**

**Mary Eliza Thompson Botham** of West  
Hartlepool

**Nottingham District**

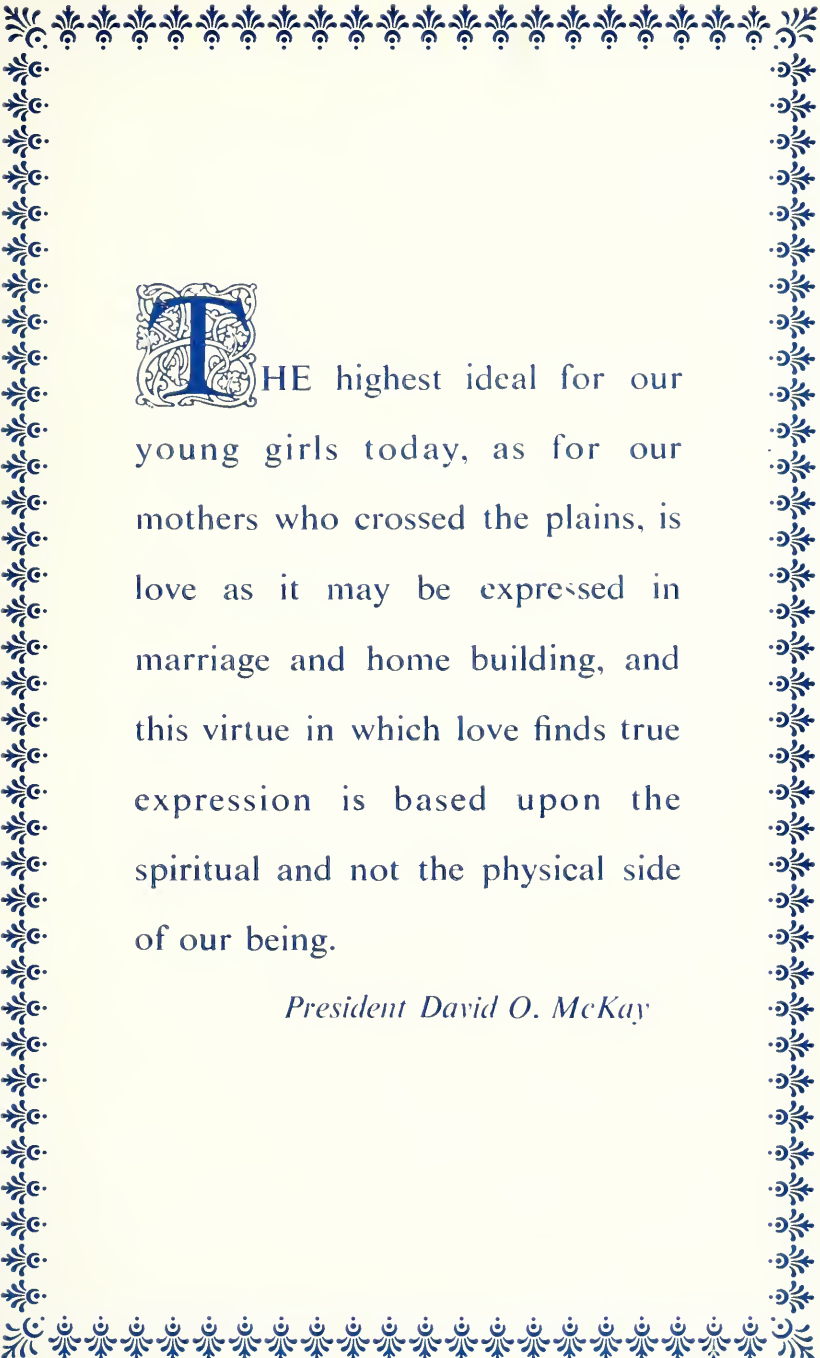
**Horace Bull** of Derby  
**Olive Florence Bull** of Derby  
**Leon Bull** of Derby  
**Ralph Bull** of Derby  
**David Martin** of Eastwood  
**Christine Kendall** of Hucknall  
**Norma Irene Shellard** of Leicester  
**Phillip John Bland** of Nottingham  
**Ann Calderwood** of Nottingham  
**Janise Fay Cuthbert** of Nottingham  
**Pauline Ann Keward** of Nottingham

**Scottish District**

**Jeanie Downes** of Airdrie  
**Joyce Ann Lovell** of Glasgow  
**James Proctor** of Glasgow

**Sheffield District**

**Barbara Maxine Melbourne** of Chesterfield  
**Kenneth Melbourne** of Chesterfield  
**Jean Cottage** of Sheffield

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**T**HE highest ideal for our young girls today, as for our mothers who crossed the plains, is love as it may be expressed in marriage and home building, and this virtue in which love finds true expression is based upon the spiritual and not the physical side of our being.

*President David O. McKay*

The responsibility of the Relief Society is to aid the priesthood in establishing the Kingdom of God, in relieving the suffering and giving succour to the poor, and in many ways in contributing to the peace and happiness of the world. In no one way can these high achievements be better realised than in excelling in the art of home building.

*President David O. McKay*